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The following is the text of an announcement made today by Hang Seng Bank, a 62.14 per cent owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc., which has been released to the other stock exchanges on which HSBC Holdings plc is listed.

5 May 2009

HANG SENG ANNOUNCES FIRST INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2009

The Board of Directors of Hang Seng Bank today declared a first interim dividend of HK\$1.10 per share in respect of the year ending 31 December 2009.

The first interim dividend will be payable on Thursday, 4 June 2009, to shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Shareholders of the Bank on Thursday, 21 May 2009.

The Register of Shareholders of the Bank will be closed for one day on Thursday, 21 May 2009, during which no transfer of shares can be registered. To qualify for the first interim dividend for 2009, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, must be lodged with the Bank's Registrars, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, Rooms 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong, for registration not later than 4:30 pm on Wednesday, 20 May 2009. Shares of the Bank will be traded ex-dividend as from Tuesday, 19 May 2009.

The results of the Bank for the first half of 2009 will be announced on Monday, 3 August 2009.

The proposed timetables for the second, third and fourth interim dividends in respect of the year ending 31 December 2009 are:

Second Interim Dividend for 2009

Announcement date	3 August 2009
Book close and record date	18 August 2009
Payment date	2 September 2009

Third Interim Dividend for 2009

Announcement date	2 November 2009
Book close and record date	17 November 2009
Payment date	2 December 2009

Fourth Interim Dividend for 2009

Announcement date	1 March 2010
Book close and record date	16 March 2010
Payment date	31 March 2010

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Hang Seng Announces First Interim Dividend for 2009/2

Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank operates over 210 service outlets, of which 106 are branches serving both personal and business customers. The Bank also maintains a branch in Shenzhen for foreign currency wholesale business, branches in Macau and Singapore, and representative offices in Xiamen and Taipei.

Established on 28 May 2007, wholly owned subsidiary Hang Seng Bank (China) Limited operates a mainland China network of 34 outlets in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Fuzhou, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Tianjin and Kunming.

With consolidated assets of HK\$762 billion as at 31 December 2008, Hang Seng Bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$14,099 million in 2008. Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. For further information on Hang Seng Bank, please visit the bank's website at www.hangseng.com.

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Note to editors:

HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 9,500 offices in 86 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$2,527 billion at 31 December 2008, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

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The Board of Directors of HSBC Holdings plc as at the date of this announcement are: S K Green, M F Geoghegan, S A Catz†, V H C Cheng, M K T Cheung†, J D Coombe†, J L Durán†, R A Fairhead†, D J Flint, A A Flockhart, W K L Fung*, S T Gulliver, J W J Hughes-Hallett†, W S H Laidlaw†, J R Lomax†, Sir Mark Moody-Stuart†, G Morgan†, N R N Murthy†, S M Robertson†, J L Thornton† and Sir Brian Williamson†.

† Independent non-executive Director

* Non-executive Director

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